

# STATE OF INDIANA



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION )  
INITIATED ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN )  
ORDER REGARDING PROJECTED )  
EXHAUSTION OF ALLOCABLE TELEPHONE )  
NUMBERS WITHIN THE VARIOUS )  
NUMBERING PLAN AREAS (NPAs), )  
THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF INDIANA )

FILED

MAY 02 2003

INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

CAUSE NO. 41535-S 812

You are hereby notified that on this date the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has caused the following Docket Entry to be made:

## Background

On September 9, 1999, this Commission, by its Order of that date in Cause No. 41535, declared that "An investigation shall be, and hereby is, commenced into the generic issues of the projected exhaustion of allocable telephone numbers within the various numbering plan areas (NPAs) within the State of Indiana, with initial focus to be upon the present and projected status of the 219 NPA."<sup>1</sup>

Thereafter, on May 20, 2002, the Commission ordered the establishment of this sub-docket to address numbering exhaustion issues specifically in the State's 812 NPA.<sup>2</sup>

Since February 1, 2001, the Commission has received copies of Numbering Utilization and Forecast Data (NRUF Data) from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA). This data set is used by the NANPA to forecast Area Code exhaustion, and contains information on the current utilization and forecasted future needs for numbering resources used by carriers to serve Indiana telecommunications consumers.

On February 14, 2001, the Commission issued an order in Cause No. 41535 that, among other things, established a process for the reclamation of numbering resources (Reclamation Order). In pertinent part, that Order invoked the Commission's prerogative to investigate generally the proper activation of numbering resources, and contemplated the use of the NRUF data as the basis to investigate the existence of unutilized numbering resources<sup>3</sup>; that is, numbering resources with no end-user customers assigned. Specifically, it was anticipated that the Commission might serve notice on such carriers that hold such apparently unutilized numbering resources and request that those carriers provide information as to the status of those numbering resources.<sup>4</sup>

## Discussion

Commission Professional Staff in the Telecommunications Division (Staff) has reviewed

<sup>1</sup> Cause No. 41535, Order date September 9, 1999, page 3.

<sup>2</sup> Cause No. 41535, Docket Entry date May 20, 2002, page 1.

<sup>3</sup> For numbering resources assigned in rate centers with thousand-blocks number pooling, unutilized numbering resources may include 1K Blocks that are less than 10% contaminated.

<sup>4</sup> Cause No. 41535, Order dated February 14, 2001, page 14.

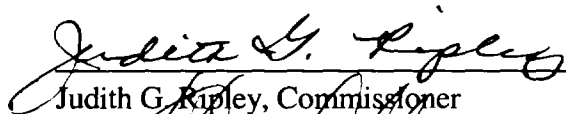
the December 2002 NRUF data, and it appears that considerable numbering resources (i.e. entire NXX Codes, 1K Blocks) in the State's 812 NPA are not being used to provide service to end-user customers.

Consistent with the Commission's previously and often stated goal to ensure the efficient use of the State's numbering resources and the procedures set forth in the Reclamation Order, the Commission hereby requests carriers with unused numbering resources, whether entire NXX Codes with no end-user customers assigned or 1K blocks in excess of its six month inventory, provide information to the Commission as to the status of these resources in relation to assigned end-user customers.

To this end, the Commission directs its assigned Professional Staff to contact in writing any carriers that, according to the December 2002 NRUF data, are assigned numbering resources that appear to be unutilized.<sup>5</sup> Staff should provide to the carrier information as to what numbering resources deemed to be unutilized to assist the carriers in responding to the notification in the required time frame to respond. Carriers are directed to respond to the inquiries by Staff as to the status of identified numbering resources within 14 business days of the receipt of the Commission Staff written communication.<sup>6</sup> Failure to respond to Staff requests will place numbering resources in jeopardy of reclamation.<sup>7</sup> Consistent with prior determinations in the major docket of this Cause, carrier submissions of information regarding the status of numbering resources are to be treated as confidential.

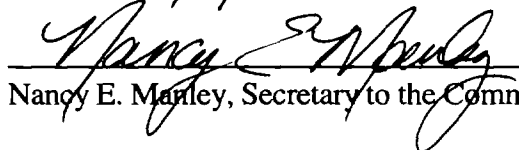
In instances where it has been established that numbering resources are not in fact being used to provide service to end-user customers, Staff may direct in writing the holder of those unutilized numbering resources to return specific unutilized numbering resources to the appropriate authority, be that the NANPA, or the Thousand-Block Number Pooling Administrator. In instances where the carrier fails to return such unutilized numbering resources to the appropriate authority, Staff may direct the appropriate authority to reclaim the numbering resource.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
Judith G. Ripley, Commissioner

  
Thomas Cobb, Administrative Law Judge

Date 5/2/03

  
Nancy E. Manley, Secretary to the Commission

<sup>5</sup> At Staff's discretion, email may be used to provide the written communication.

<sup>6</sup> Cause No. 41535, Order dated February 14, 2001, page 14.

<sup>7</sup> Id.